

## Practical First Steps to Procuring Renewable Electricity

ENERGY STAR
Quarterly Industrial Brownbag Series
Thursday, November 19, 2020
Noon (Eastern)



Trouble with audio: email estraining@icfi.com



### **Deadline Reminders**

**ENERGY STAR Industrial Plant Certification** *November 30* 



Partner of the Year Application

December 9, 8 PM ET





### **Presenters**



James Critchfield
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



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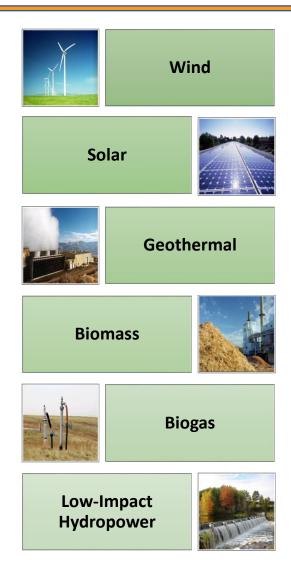


# Buying Green Power

For the Manufacturing and Industrial Sector November 19, 2020



### What is Green Power?



- Green power is a subset of renewable electricity and represents those renewable energy resources and technologies that provide the highest environmental benefit.
  - Meets national standards for product quality and content
  - Green Power is specific to the "voluntary market" and is driven by consumer preference rather than by policy mandate
  - Is generation that is incremental to what is required by mandate



## How EE & Green Power Work Together

Energy 
$$(kWh)$$
 · Emissions Rate  $\left(\frac{lbs\ CO_2}{kWh}\right)$  = Air Emissions

#### **Energy Efficiency**



#### **Green Power Use**









## Making a Difference

- Making the simple choice for how your power is generated
- Ensuring your purchase goes above and beyond what is otherwise available or mandated (incremental or surplus)
- Buy third-party certified green power when possible
- Commit to long-term contracts
- Directly engage with new projects (economic benefits)
- Substantiate your use and claims through REC ownership



## Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

You are only using

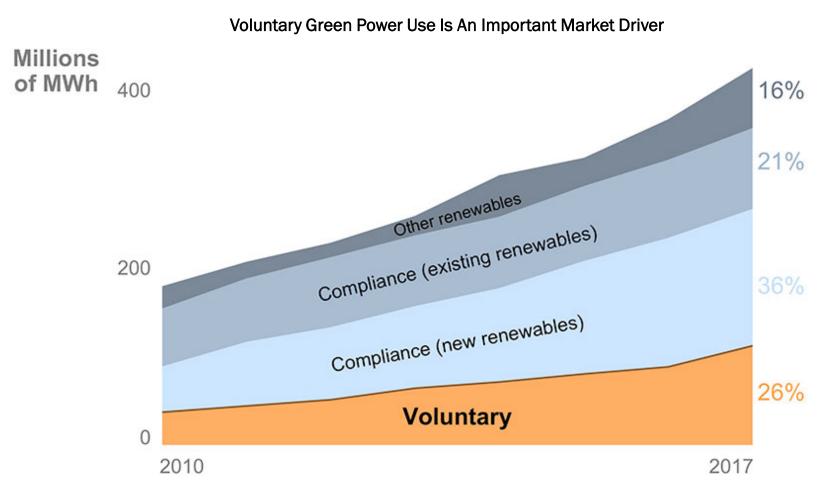
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY

when you

have both a

REC and ELECTRICITY

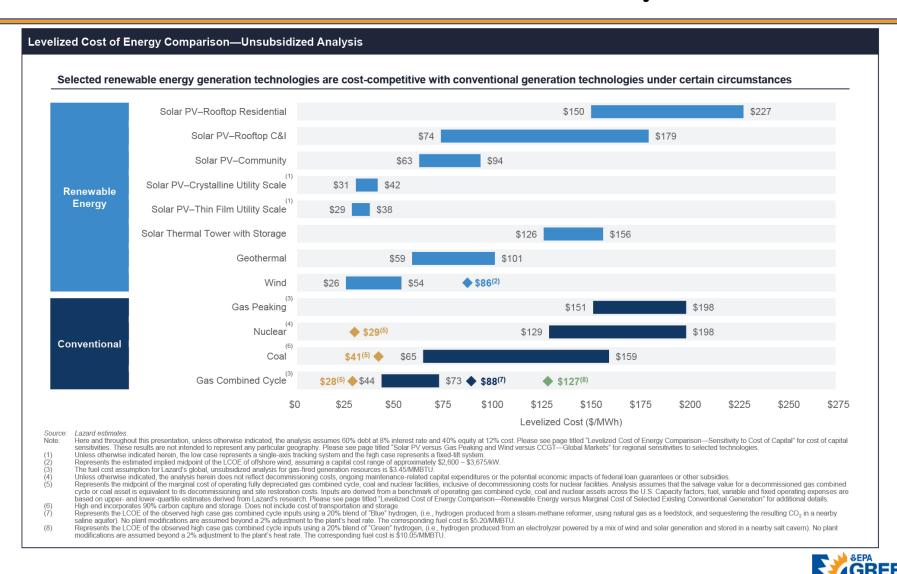
## **National Voluntary Markets**





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## Levelized Cost of Electricity



EPA's Green Power Partnership is a free, voluntary program that encourages organizations to use green power to reduce the environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use

https://www.epa.gov/greenpower

### Partners include:

- Fortune 500 corporations
- Higher Education institutions
- Federal, State and local governments
- Small & medium sized businesses
- Non-profits



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### **EPA Green Power Partners**









































Goldman Sachs



























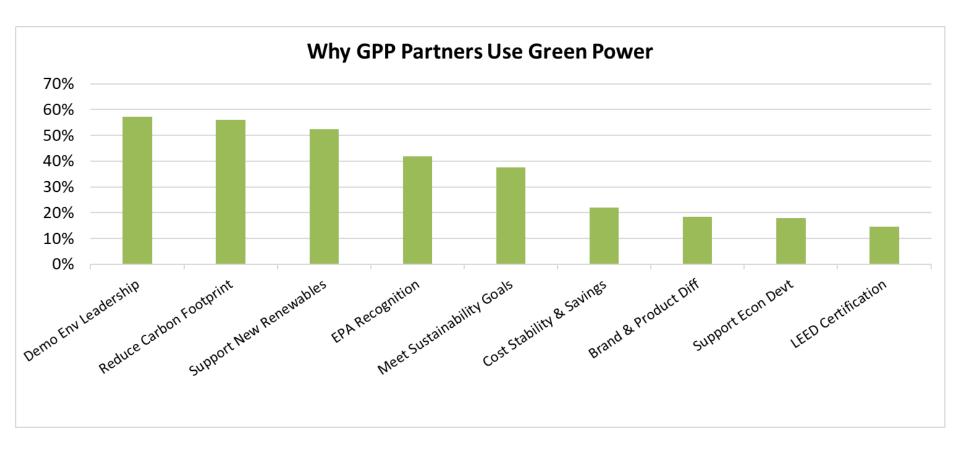








### Motivation





### Green Power Use Benchmarks

Annual electricity usage	Partnership minimum requirements		
If your annual electricity use in kilowatt-hours is	You must, at a minimum, use this much green power*:		
≥ 100,000,001 kWh	7% of use		
10,000,001 – 100,000,000 kWh	10% of use		
1,000,001 – 10,000,000 kWh	25% of use		
100,000 – 1,000,000 kWh	50% of use		

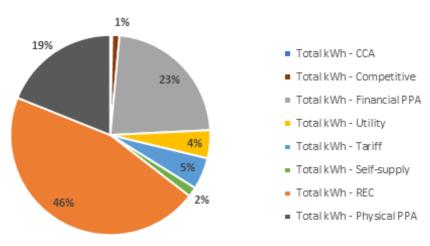
<sup>\*</sup>All green power must be surplus to regulation or what is otherwise available to all ratepayers as part of the grid mix EPA Green Power Partnership Program Requirements: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/requirements-green-power-partnership">https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/requirements-green-power-partnership</a>



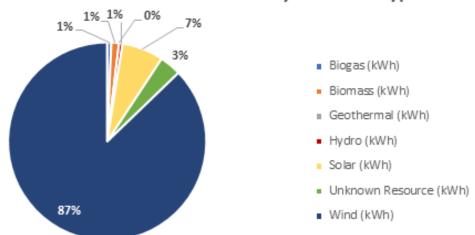
## **GPP: Manufacturing & Industrial Sector**

- Number of Partners: 104
- Total Green Power: nearly 32.2 Billion kWh
- Average Green Power Use: more than 309 million kWh
- Equivalent No. of Homes: more than 2.9 million

#### Share of Green Power Use by Supply Option



#### Share of Green Power Use by Resource Type





## **Green Power Supply Options**

	Retail (Unbundled) RECs		
Retail Options	Utility Products or Programs		
	Community Choice Aggregation		
Project Specific Options	Self-Supply		
	Physical PPAs		
	Shared Renewables		
	Utility Green Tariffs		
	Financial Contracts		



## **Green Power Supply Options**

Will Cost You More



Retail Options	Retail (Unbundled) RECs	
	Utility Products or Programs	



#### **Your Current Electricity Cost**

Retail Options	Community Choice Aggregation			
Project Specific Options	Self-Supply			
	Physical PPAs			
	Shared Renewables			
	Utility Green Tariffs			
	Financial Contracts			



## **Supply Option Summary**

Supply Option	Unbundled REC Products	Utility Supply Options	Community Choice Aggregation	Physical Power Purchase Agreements	Financial PPAs / Contract for Differences	On-site Self Generation	Off-site Self Generation
Upfront Capital Investment	None	None	None	None	None	\$\$-\$\$\$	\$\$-\$\$\$\$
Ongoing Expenditures Relative to Incumbent Electricity Option	Cost premium	Cost premium; tariff may offer savings	Varies	Cost savings over life of contract	Cost savings over life of contract	Cost savings over life of project	Cost savings over life of project
Term of Commitment	Varies; significant flexibility	Monthly; multiyear for green tariff	Consumer opt-out provision	Multiyear	Multiyear	Operational life of installed technology	Operational life of installed technology
Transaction Complexity	0	0	0	000	00000	000	0000
Transaction Includes	RECs only	RECs + Electricity	RECs + Electricity	RECs + Electricity delivery + fixed cost of electricity	RECs + Hedge against downside price risk	RECs* + Electricity + Generator	RECs* + Generator + Revenue from electrici- ty sales

<sup>\*</sup>Many smaller renewable energy projects are not formally issued RECs from regional tracking systems, but nonetheless still generate environmental attributes.

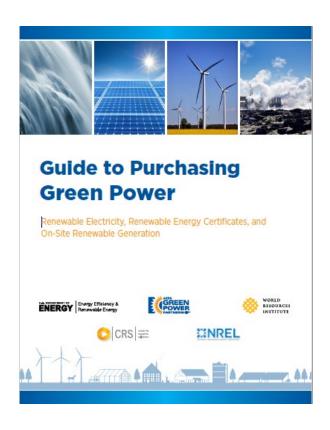


## Practical First Steps...

- Know what you want as an outcome
- Collect relevant information (i.e., facility, market, policy information and annual electricity use data)
- Identify accessible supply options that fit your situation and objectives
- Get involved in industry groups
- Develop a green power procurement plan
- Solicit green power procurement bids
- Evaluate your procurement bids
- Sign a contract / build a project



## Resources: Getting Started



- Guide To Purchasing Green Power
  - Great place to start if you have never purchased green power before
  - Authors include EPA, DOE, World Resources Institute, Center for Resource Solutions and NREL
  - https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/guid e-purchasing-green-power



## Toolbox for RE Project Development

- The "Toolbox" provides a wide range of resources on various steps, topics and issues related to project development supply options
  - Project development process
  - Policy considerations
  - Financing approaches
  - Project economics and evaluation
  - RFP and contracts guidance
  - Consumer claims guidance
- Toolbox: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox">https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox</a>
- Searchable Resource Directory:
   <u>https://www.epa.gov/repowertoolbox/renewable-energy-project-development-resource-directory</u>



## Questions?

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